

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please insert the following paragraph before the first sentence of the application at page 1, line 1:

This application is the national phase application under 35 U.S.C. §371 of International Application No. PCT/EP2003/014213 filed on December 13, 2003, entitled, "Process and Plant for Producing Metal Oxide from Metal Compounds" which claims the benefit of German Patent Application No. 102 60 739.7 filed on December 23, 2002.